

*****Draft*****

Weare Open Space Committee
Minutes of December 22, 2009

Members attending: Steve Najjar - chair, George Malette, Ian McSweeney, Pat Myers - secretary.
Guests: none

Chairman Najjar called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Minutes of the October 27, 2009 meeting were reviewed. George made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Ian seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

2010 meeting schedule – Steve asked if anyone was interested in changing the 4th Tuesday at 7 pm schedule the committee has been using. Members expressed satisfaction with that same schedule for 2010. Steve asked Pat as Secretary, to determine those actual dates and email our 2010 schedule to Merry Rice the BOD Secretary. Merry will post them as public meetings.

Hawkes update– Steve reported no further changes. The closing on the 30 acre CE addition will be in March 2010.

WOSC membership – Steve recommended that the committee embark on a serious membership drive since we are down to 4 regular members. Steve asked Pat to put an announcement on the cable access channel asking for volunteers. Pat and Ian said they would go through records from past events looking for names of folks who might be interested in serving.

Agriculture in Weare – George announced an upcoming gathering open to anyone in town who has an interest in agriculture, small farms, gardens, etc. The group is to meet on February 6, 2010 at an address on Duck Pond Road. Contact George for information.

Melvin Farm Project - Stephen and Heidi Pope – A site walk is scheduled for Saturday, January 9th at 8 AM. George said he would not be able to attend but has been on the property. There was a brief review of the Conservation Attributes Check List that the WOSC uses to help evaluate project worthiness. The values Agricultural Soils and View Shed were noted. Steve reminded the committee that it must vote at the January meeting on whether or not to recommend Conservation Fund support for the project to the Conservation Commission. The Piscataquog Land Conservancy has asked for up to **\$20,000** to cover the stewardship fees and other costs of the project.

Cleaves – Ian had no further news on this contact. He did say that the owners were happy to have a site walk. A tentative date of February 7th at 8:30 AM was agreed upon. Ian will check that date with the owners and report back at the January 26th WOSC meeting.

There being no further discussion, Pat made the motion to adjourn. George 2nd the motion, all voted yes and the meeting ended at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Myers
WOSC Secretary

Cc: Town Clerk, BOS, Merry Rice, WOSC files